

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:FDICKMAN:PM

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FDICKMAN

NEA/RA:EPADOLFORD (INFO)

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O R 152330Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086448

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, SAUS

SUBJECT: 1975 NWC VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: USDAO JIDDA 0242 APR 75 (NOTAL)

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM NEA/ARP

1. NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE MIDDLE EAST STUDY GROUP HAS VISAS EXCEPT FOR SAUDI ARABIA. UNDERSTAND FROM REFTEL WAIVER OF VISAS HAS BEEN SOUGHT AND IS PENDING.

2. GROUP DEPARTS WASHINGTON 19 APR WITH STOPS AT TUNIS (REFUELING),CAIRO 20-23 APR AND AMMAN 23-26 APR BEFORE ARRIVING RIYADH. COMMANDANT NWC WISHES MIDDLE EAST STUDY GROUP COORDINATE ALL VISA ARRANGEMENTS CLOSELY WITH YOU BUT RELUCTANT FOR GROUP PROCEED WITHOUT ASSURANCES ALL VISAS IN HAND OR VISA WAIVER GRANTED. IF GROUP SEEKS VISAS FROM SAUDI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WE EXPECT THREE MEMBERS BECAUSE OF THEIR RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS WOULD NOT BE ISSUED VISAS PENDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM SAUDI FOREIGN
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MINISTRY. WOULD THEREFORE LIKE YOUR BEST JUDGMENT WHETHER

(A) WE SHOULD ANTICIPATE VISA WAIVER WILL BE RECEIVED FOR ENTIRE GROUP OR (B) WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH TRYING TO GET AS MANY VISAS HERE AS POSSIBLE LEAVING MATTER OF EXCEPTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED DIRECTLY BY YOU AT HIGHER LEVEL.

3. NWC WISHES EMPHASIZE DESIRE RESOLVE PROBLEM IN WAYS WHICH WILL PRESERVE USG POSITION AND AVOID ANY POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT IF VISA DECISIONS NOT REACHED PRIOR WASHINGTON DEPARTURE APRIL 19. APPRECIATE ADVICE SOONEST.

KISSINGER

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